

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2007 and the advisory action mailed May 7, 2007. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

By the above amendment, claims 11-14 are newly presented. Accordingly, claims 1-14 are currently pending in the present application.

Initially, it is submitted that independent claim 1 is allowable over the Gudmundsson (U.S. Patent No. 5,536,893) for the reasons set forth in the previous response.

Previously Applicant argued that Gudmundsson does not meet the limitation of claim 1 that requires a pump for recycling material from the separator back to the reactor. Claim 1 specifies that the pump is positioned in “a line which leads from the separator to the reactor”. However, in Gudmundsson, a line leads from the gas separator to the reactor 6 and the line is provided with a “compressor” and not a pump as required in claim 1. As described in col. 7, lines 53-65, compressing the separated gas 1C to a pressure above the reactor pressure is sufficient to permit the gas to easily flow into the reactor. Thus, Gudmundsson clearly does not anticipate the limitations set forth in lines 10-11 of claim 1.

It is noted that this argument was presented in the previous response, and was not addressed by the Examiner. In order to anticipate a claim, the prior art reference must disclose each and every limitation set forth in the claim. In spite of this clear omission in the Gudmundsson reference, the Examiner maintained the anticipation rejection of claim 1. The Examiner is specifically requested to address the above argument.

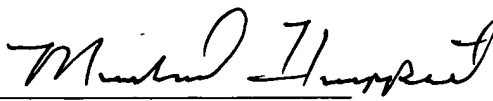
New independent claim 11 specifically sets forth the position of each of the recited elements. In particular, claim 11 specifies that the "separator" is connected to an outlet of said second heat exchanger such that said second heat exchanger is positioned between said reactor and said separator. In Gudmundsson, the refrigeration unit 11 (second heat exchanger) is disposed downstream of the separator, and therefore cannot be located between the separator and the reactor. The connections between the respective elements are clearly set forth in claim 11, and thus, claim 11 is clearly allowable over the Gudmundsson reference.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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